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OLC 69-0649

28 July 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**SUBJECT: Conversation with Representative Clement J. Zablocki
Re MIRV Briefing**

1. This afternoon I met with Chairman Zablocki, Subcommittee on National Security and Scientific Development, House Foreign Affairs Committee, in response to his request for a briefing on the Soviet MIRV program. Mr. Zablocki said he would be quite happy to have Mr. Duckett give the briefing, and that it would be conducted on an informal basis without transcript or publicity. However he said the practice in the Foreign Affairs Committee was that any full Committee member could sit in on any Subcommittee hearing, so he assumed there would be no objection to this. I said I was sure there would be none.

2. The briefing is planned for 2:00 P. M. on Thursday, 31 July, in Room 2200 Rayburn House Office Building. Mr. Jack Sullivan, of the Subcommittee staff, will arrange to have the room under guard.

3. In response to my questions, Mr. Zablocki and Mr. Sullivan said that they would be particularly interested in:

a. whether or not the Soviets now have a MIRV capability;

b. if not, whether the development of such a capability could be detected by national means (i. e. by our existing intelligence resources);

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c. how much MIRV testing would be necessary before the Soviets could have "operational confidence" in such a system;

d. what is the significance of "throw weight" as a parameter in arms limitation agreements;

e. would not the deployment of an operational MIRV system render an effective arms limitation agreement vastly more difficult if not impossible;

f. what possible future strategic weapon development is likely beyond the MIRV.

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